

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN CHRISTINE KAUFMANN**, on January 21,
2005 at 7:00 A.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Christine Kaufmann, Chairman (D)
Sen. Dan Weinberg, Vice Chairman (D)
Sen. John Cobb (R)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Sen. Greg Lind (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Walter McNutt (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Pat Gervais, Legislative Branch
Laura Good, Committee Secretary
Lois Steinbeck, Legislative Branch

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Executive Action: Addictive and Mental Disorders
Division, Human and Community
Services Division

CHAIR REP. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN, HD 81, HELENA, convened the meeting at 7:05 A.M.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON ADDICTIVE AND MENTAL DISORDERS DIVISION

Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD) DP 97 - Montana Chemical Dependency Center (MCDC) Present Law Adjustment

Motion/Vote: REP. PENNY MORGAN, HD 57, BILLINGS moved that AMDD DP 97 BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. REP. MCNUTT voted by proxy.

**AMDD DP 99 - Medicaid Caseload - Chemical Dependency
AMDD DP 103 and DP 104 - Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) Adjustments for Medicaid Rate Changes**

Motion/Vote: REP. KAUFMANN moved that AMDD DP 103 AND DP 104 BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. REP. WALTER MCNUTT, HD 37, SIDNEY, voted by proxy.

AMDD DP 105 - Montana Chemical Dependency Center Base Adjustment

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 9.1}

Motion: REP. MORGAN moved that AMDD DP 105 BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

SEN. DAN WEINBERG, SD 2, WHITEFISH, suggested that the committee scrutinize management practices at MCDC in an attempt to understand why managers draft and pay current employees for extensive overtime, rather than hire additional staff as needed.

Ms. Joyce DeCunzo, Administrator, AMDD, discussed union-mandated staff-to-patient ratios, and how they contribute to MCDC staff overtime. Responding to **SEN. JOHN COBB, SD 9, AUGUSTA, Ms. DeCunzo** explained to the committee that MCDC has significant difficulties in recruiting and retaining Licensed Addiction Counselors (LAC's). She stated that MCDC attempts to manage this staffing shortfall by limiting the number of individuals it brings into the facility.

Mr. Dave Pashek, Administrator, MCDC, confirmed the accuracy of Ms. DeCunzo's remarks and reiterated MCDC's difficulties in recruiting and retaining LAC's. He noted that just yesterday, upon returning to his office he learned that another LAC had resigned in order to take another state position that pays \$6,000

more per year. **Mr. Pashek** also discussed ways in which the LAC shortfall affects the quality of care at MCDC.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 13.3}

SEN. GREG LIND, SD 50, MISSOULA, asked Mr. Pashek if hiring bonuses would alleviate a degree of MCDC's staffing challenges.

Mr. Pashek stated that salary is a very significant factor in recruiting and retaining good staff.

SEN. COBB asked Mr. Pashek what MCDC needs in order to stay fully staffed.

Mr. Pashek explained that there is a shallow, circulating pool of LAC's in Montana, with very few new trainees or relocating professionals entering the state. He stated that this situation increases the competitiveness of the LAC market.

SEN. COBB made a legislative request of Ms. DeCunzo, asking that she provide the committee with information regarding what amount of funds AMDD would need to adequately staff MCDC.

Ms. DeCunzo agreed to do so.

REP. MORGAN asked Mr. Pashek how the LAC mentioned earlier was able to move to a state position that paid a higher salary.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 17.1}

Mr. Pashek stated the LAC took a job with the Department of Corrections. He also said that private LAC positions generally pay significantly more than state LAC positions.

Ms. Steinbeck discussed allowable pay-plan exceptions, including Pay Plan 20.

Mr. Chappuis stated that movement of state employees to pay-plan requires often challenging and complicated union negotiations.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. **REP. MCNUTT** voted by proxy.

AMDD DP 132 - Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Increases

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 23.4}

SEN. LIND asked the Department or LFD staff to confirm that this is an attempt to shift MCDC costs onto an unstable funding source.

Mr. Bob Mullen, Bureau Chief, AMDD Operations Bureau, stated that **SEN. LIND's** assessment is accurate, and that the proposed funding source is not wholly reliable.

SEN. LIND requested a breakdown of expenditures: treatment vs. prevention.

Mr. Mullen stated that AMDD is required by the federal grant to spend 20% of the receipts on prevention, while 75% is spent on treatment and 5% goes to administration.

SEN. WEINBERG asked if AMDD must return portions of the block grant when it does not fill its vacant staffing positions.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 25.1}

Mr. Mullen stated that AMDD is not required to return portions of the block grant when it does not fill its vacant staffing positions. He stated that the Division will return alcohol tax money, if at all possible.

Ms. Steinbeck stated that underexpenditures at MCDC and an increase in federal block grant were responsible for state and county-wide programs receiving more federal block grant funds in the past biennium than were anticipated by the previous legislature.

SEN. LIND asked how AMDD plans to proceed with MCDC funding if it does not receive the Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Federal Block Grant.

Mr. Mullen stated that if AMDD does not receive the grant, it will have to make service adjustments, which may include cutting some programs. In response to a follow-up question from **SEN. LIND**, **Mr. Mullen** stated that the SAPT federal block grant funds can be spent in community programs and discussed how SAPT funds currently help to fund the Medicaid program.

{Tape: 1; Side: B}

Ms. Steinbeck discussed possible courses of action that the committee could take regarding AMDD DP 132.

Motion: SEN. COBB moved that AMDD DP 132 BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

Responding to **CHAIR KAUFMANN**, **Ms. Steinbeck** stated that AMDD DP 132 is a request for authority to spend federal funds.

Vote: Motion carried 6-1 by voice vote with SEN. LIND voting no. REP. MCNUTT voted by proxy.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 3.8}

AMDD DP 179 - Discontinue State Incentive Grant Authority

Motion: REP. MORGAN moved that AMDD DP 179 BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

Responding to **REP. JOEY JAYNE, HD 15, ARLEE, Ms. DeCunzo** stated that AMDD has completed the State Incentive Grant and that there are no more funds available.

Replying to **REP. JAYNE's** follow-up question, **Ms. Joan Cassidy, Bureau Chief, Chemical Dependency Bureau**, stated that the grant is no longer functioning, and the Division cannot apply for it again.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. REP. MCNUTT voted by proxy.

AMDD DP 181 - Correct Accounting Error

Motion/Vote: REP. KAUFMANN moved that AMDD DP 181 BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. REP. MCNUTT voted by proxy.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 8.2}

AMDD DP 193 - Chemical Dependency Administrative Fund Switch

Ms. Steinbeck provided and discussed two related handouts.

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a02\)](#)

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 14.9}

SEN. WEINBERG also asked how the committee might access information that would aid in assessing whether the state or the county is a better manager of related funds and programs.

Ms. Joan Cassidy, Bureau Chief, Chemical Dependency Bureau, stated that there are 17 state-approved providers with whom the state contracts all chemical dependency services. She explained that the block grant subsidizes these community services.

REP. MORGAN asked how much money is generally contained in the end-of-year balance of unspent funds that reverts back to counties.

Ms. Cassidy stated that this amount is generally very minimal.

Ms. Steinbeck offered her comments on this matter, referring back to Exhibit 1.

CHAIR KAUFMANN summarized the issues surrounding AMDD DP 193.

Motion/Vote: **REP. JAYNE** moved that AMDD DP 193 BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. **REP. MCNUTT** voted by proxy.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 21.7}

AMDD DP 55

In response to **REP. MORGAN**, **Ms. Steinbeck** stated that AMDD is assuming that a higher proportion of its expenses will not be able to be allocated among federal funds and state special revenue. Thus, a proportionately higher amount of its administrative costs will have to be covered by general fund monies. **Ms. Steinbeck** also noted complications presented by a possible Health Insurance Flexibility and Accountability (HIFA) waiver expansion.

Replying to **REP. MORGAN's** follow-up question, **Ms. Steinbeck** explained that when a division has excess cash appropriation authority, the division may spend the funds in any legal, unrestricted manner it so desires. She discussed the minimal effect that a restricted appropriation would have on the issue at hand.

Responding to questions from **SEN. COBB**, **Mr. Chappuis** discussed Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS)- mandated cost allocation plans that the DPHHS divisions follow.

Motion/Vote: REP. MORGAN moved that AMDD DP 55 BE ADOPTED.
Motion carried 5-1 by voice vote with SEN. LIND voting no. SEN.
COBB expressed that he did not feel prepared to vote. REP. MCNUTT
voted by proxy.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 25.4}

AMDD DP 107 - Continued Data Infrastructure and Integration

Motion/Vote: REP. JAYNE moved that AMDD DP 107 BE ADOPTED.
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. REP. MCNUTT voted by
proxy.

AMDD DP 9999 - Statewide Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) reduction

Motion/Vote: REP. MORGAN moved AMDD DP 9999 . Motion carried 5-2
by voice vote with REP. KAUFMANN and SEN. LIND voting no. REP.
MCNUTT voted by proxy.

Responding to SEN. COBB, Ms. Steinbeck discussed administration
cost allocation issues.

{Tape: 2; Side: A}

Replying to SEN. LIND, Mr. Chappuis suggested that Ms. Marie
Matthews, Fiscal Policy Advisor, Fiscal Services, might be able
to answer his more specific questions.

At the committee's request, Ms. Steinbeck agreed to engage Ms.
Matthews for a presentation before the committee.

CHAIR KAUFMANN announced that Disability Services Division
Executive Action would be rescheduled for 5 p.m. today.

Following a brief break, CHAIR KAUFMANN provided the committee
with the Montana Family Policy Act, for their perusal.

[EXHIBIT](#)(jhh16a03)

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 9.8}

OVERVIEW: HUMAN AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

Mr. Hank Hudson, Administrator, Human and Community Services Division (HCSD), provided and discussed an HCSD overview.

EXHIBIT(jhh16a04)

Interjecting a question into Mr. Hudson's overview, **REP. JAYNE** asked which HCSD DP address the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant transfer of \$9.6 million into child care.

Mr. Hudson stated that HCSD DP 120 and the base budget include information about related appropriations and programs.

Responding to **REP. MORGAN's** question regarding child care shortages and funding crises across the state, **Mr. Hudson** explained child care provider rate increase calculations.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 28.3}

Replying to **SEN. COBB, Ms. Gervais** stated that the HCSD budget request includes some child care services that require complete state special revenue or general fund monies, with no possibility of federal matching funds.

Mr. Hudson also mentioned SB 82, carried by **SEN. COBB**, which is a funding vehicle for child care programs.

{Tape: 2; Side: B}

Mr. Hudson and **Ms. Gervais** made separate comments on HCSD DP 69 - Tribal TANF Maintenance of Effort (MOE).

Responding to **REP. JAYNE, Mr. Hudson** stated that HCSD will undertake a more lengthy, detailed discussion of TANF-related DPs later in its presentation.

Mr. Hudson continued with the HCSD overview.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 12.5}

Prompted by **REP. JAYNE, Ms. Gervais** explained the relationship between SB 82 and the Governor's Proposal 3005 for child care.

SEN. COBB also offered his comments.

REP. JAYNE noted that HB 722 and HB 733 also affect childcare.

Replying to **SEN. WEINBERG, Mr. Hudson** explained the genesis and sponsors of HCSD-related bills.

Mr. Hudson returned to the HCSD overview.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 29}

At the request of **SEN. LIND, Mr. Hudson** discussed HCSD administrative costs, and stated that the allocation is comparable to that of other divisions.

Mr. Hudson went back to the HCSD overview, discussing child care programs and issues.

{Tape: 3; Side: A}

Responding to **SEN. WEINBERG, Mr. Hudson** told the committee that another DPHHS division licenses child care providers, while HCSD maintains and provides a list of licensed facilities to parents. **Mr. Hudson** stated that HCSD hopes to broaden child care funding so that the services do not rely exclusively on TANF funding, and discussed the ramifications of waiver expiration and work participation requirements.

Ms. Gervais noted that meeting work participation requirements allows the state's MOE to decrease to 75% of historical costs.

Replying to **REP. JAYNE, Mr. Hudson** noted that CFSD DP 144 was inadvertently slated as one-time-only (OTO). HCSD requested that CFSD DP 144 not be considered as OTO.

Mr. Hudson continued with the HCSD overview.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 8.8}

Prompted by **SEN. WEINBERG, Mr. Hudson** clarified that HCSD does not provide methamphetamine drug rehabilitation, but connects participants to such services in other divisions. He also noted that 30 hours of drug rehabilitation can count toward work participation requirements.

At the request of **SEN. COBB** and **SEN. LIND, Mr. Hudson** agreed to provide a breakdown of the characteristics of individuals that generally cannot be helped to success within five years or sixty months. He also agreed to provide information on the duration and stability of residency in such populations, literacy levels and program recidivism.

Mr. Hudson returned to the HCSD overview. He provided the committee with a handout on the Montana Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP).

EXHIBIT(jhh16a05)

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 19.6}

SEN. LIND requested information regarding the Montana Abstinence Education Program content, outcomes, rationale, and how the program fits into the division's other family planning measures.

Responding to further questions, **Mr. Hudson** stated that any of these program expenditures can be changed by the committee. He noted that some are included in the base budget and some in DPs.

Mr. Hudson went back to the HCSD overview.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 25.3}

Responding to **CHAIR KAUFMANN**, **Mr. Hudson** explained why HCSD reported excess TANF funds during a time of TANF benefit cuts.

Replying to **REP. JAYNE**, **Mr. Hudson** told the committee why he would not support a bill carried by **REP. CAROL JUNEAU, HD 16, BROWNING** that would restore TANF 2003 cuts.

{Tape: 3; Side: B}

Prompted by **REP. MORGAN**, **Mr. Hudson** stated that he does not believe that raising TANF benefits decreases participants' interest in work. He described the dire situations of TANF participants who opted out of the program when benefits decreased.

Responding to **SEN. LIND**, **Mr. Hudson** stated that DPHHS, Director Gray, and Mr. Hudson were responsible for the 2003 TANF benefit cuts.

SEN. COBB noted the committee's complicity in the cuts.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 4.7}

Ms. Gervais clarified that the TANF benefit level is currently set by the Department in administrative rule. Statute does not provide guidance to DPHHS on this issue. She stated that the legislature may amend statute in order to make guidelines and guidance more specific.

Mr. Hudson continued with the HCSD overview.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 8.4}

In response to **SEN. WEINBERG**, **Mr. Hudson** explained why TANF benefits dropped in August 2003 and why TANF participants chose to leave the program following the benefit reduction.

REP. JAYNE asked if there were some way to restrict funding so that benefits cannot be reduced in such a drastic manner.

Ms. Gervais explained that HB 2 cannot contain substantive law or applied amendment to statute. To ensure a benefit level, the committee could create statute directing the methods and mechanisms behind the Department's rate setting.

REP. JAYNE pointed out the exact code that would need to be changed in order to accomplish this.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 15.8}

Mr. Hudson returned to the HCSD overview.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 23.9}

Responding to **CHAIR KAUFMANN**, **Mr. Hudson** explained how child care was funded prior to the major shift of child care from TANF.

{Comments: Due to technical difficulties, no audio is available for the following portion of the proceedings}

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: HUMAN AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Ms. Judy Smith, Billings TANF advocate, offered a composite of the typical Montana TANF participant. She stated that Montana has one of the highest child poverty rates in the country, and described the dire effects of TANF benefit reductions on TANF participants and the advocacy community.

Ms. Smith also noted that many TANF participants are victims of domestic violence. She provided several handouts, including a Montana Child Care Profile and charts regarding TANF eligibles and TANF cash participants, and urged the committee not to allocate TANF funds for child care.

Ms. Smith closed by stating that she feels Page 11 of Exhibit 4 is misleading, and offered to clarify related information for committee members.

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a07\)](#)

Ms. Marg Crennan, AARP Utility Action Team Member, reported that low income families spend approximately 32% of their earnings on utility bills and 34% of their earnings on out-of-pocket medical bills. She offered specific recommendations on utility assistance reform.

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a09\)](#)

REP. DAVID WANZENRIED, HD 97, MISSOULA, expressed that use of \$23 million TANF surplus for child care services, rather than TANF benefits, is unwise.

{Tape: 4; Side: B}

REP. CAROL JUNEAU, HD 16, BROWNING, reported that 49% of Montana's TANF cases are Native American individuals, and described TANF as an important aspect of Montana's economic development initiatives. She also characterized TANF issues as civil rights issues, since TANF disproportionately affects the state's largest minority, and expressed that TANF cuts are illegal and immoral.

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a10\)](#)

REP. MARGARETT CAMPBELL, HD 31, POPLAR, represents a county that is among the top three highest TANF participation rate counties. She read an e-mail from **Ms. Patti McGeeshik, Director, Crisis Center**, and **Ms. Billy Brownlee, Highline Work Program**, stating that TANF cuts forced several families out of their homes and into cars, streets, and shelters. One mother in their acquaintance responded to the resulting financial situation by giving her children to the foster care system.

{Tape: 4; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 6.6}

Ms. Shelly Fischer, Chair, Montana Early Childhood Development Council; Owner, three Butte child care facilities, discussed the importance of excellent child care and urged maintenance of HSCD child care programs.

Ms. Lacey Davisson, single mother of two children, offered her thanks for state programs that help her secure excellent child care while she attends school full-time and works part-time. She said that it would cost her approximately \$10,000 per year if she paid full price for comparable child care services.

Ms. Rachel Haberman, Montana Energy Share, helps low-income Montanans with their energy needs. She provided the committee with a Fact Sheet on Montana's poor and the need for low-income energy assistance.

EXHIBIT(jhh16a11)

{Tape: 4; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 14.1}

Ms. Kate Bratches, Director, Health Services, Missoula City-County Health Department, oversees a number of programs including the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program, which provides basic food supplements to pregnant, nursing and postpartum women and their children, and a nursing program that provides services to the highest risk pregnant women. She stated that many clients are "only a TANF check away from homelessness" and urged restoration of TANF benefits. She shared stories of WIC's TANF, Medicaid, and food stamp eligible mothers and children.

Ms. Laurie Evans, Director, District 4 Human Resources Division (HRD) Child Link, discussed the importance child care in the retention of young Montana families.

{Tape: 4; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 21}

Ms. Ann Tribbey, Director, Miles City Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, spoke on behalf of the 158 child care facilities and approximately 370 child care providers represented by her organization. She reported that 43 of the families served have two working parents, and that even some families on the state pay-plan have accessed HCSD child care funds through her organization. She urged the committee to maintain child care funding.

{Tape: 4; Side: A; Comments: Please note: the following audio can be found on Side A of Tape 4}

Ms. Collette Box, Kalispell Child care Provider, urged maintenance of current child care funding levels. She noted a shortage of quality early childhood teachers, due to low pay and low prestige.

Mr. Roger Wright, Co-Owner, for-profit child care facility, Great Falls; member, Montana Early Childhood Advisory Council Member, expressed the importance of equitable child care provider rates. He requested development of a fair tax system that can support full funding for TANF and child care services.

Ms. Jessie Lundberg, Women's Opportunity and Resource, Missoula, urged the committee to use the TANF surplus to restore TANF cash benefits. She also reported that the decrease in TANF benefits has led to an increase in homelessness.

Ms. Judy Delaney, Co-Chair, Missoula child care facility, urged the committee to appropriate \$26.9 million per year for child care programs. She closed by reading a letter from a parent who is able to secure child care at Ms. Delaney's facility, thanks to state child care funding.

{Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 25.2}

Ms. Katrina Dalrymple, a single mother of three, was able to work, complete university, care for her children, and undergo thyroid cancer treatment thanks to TANF, Medicaid and other state services. She described the "utter panic" she felt when she learned that TANF benefits, which allowed her to rent an affordable apartment in Missoula, were cut.

Ms. Kim Abbott, Organizer, Working for Equality and Economic Liberation (WEEL), discussed the significant number of families affected by TANF cuts. On behalf of WEEL, she requested that the \$23 million TANF benefit be used toward a full reinstatement of TANF cash benefits.

Ms. Diane Yarns, a working parent in Kalispell, urged maintenance of childcare funding at current levels. She expressed how excellent childcare helped her and her husband develop their now successful small business. Today, her organization employs 12 technicians, a full-time office person, and a full-time inventory staff person, including nine families who have a total of 19 young children.

{Tape: 5; Side: A}

Ms. Linda Reinhart, Director, Bozeman Child Care Connections, spoke on behalf of Shannon, a single mother who was unable to attend today's proceedings. Shannon expressed her thanks for state-funded child care assistance which allows her to work.

Ms. Susan Held, President, Montana Child Care Association, urged the committee to maintain current levels of child care funding. She also announced that Montana Child Care was second in the nation for the highest percentages of accredited providers versus registered and licensed facilities. She asked the committee to seriously consider all that it can do to help Montana continue to achieve awards like this one.

Ms. Mary Ann George, President, Helena Child Care Association, supported TANF and child care funding. She explained how consistent, high-quality child care helps parents to be better parents and employees.

Ms. Berta Halverson, child care provider, serves five TANF families. All families are headed by single mothers, four of whom work full-time and one of whom is a full-time student. She noted that because her clients are able to pay little or no more than their government-funded subsidy, she herself and her own family qualify for WIC, Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP), and the other government programs that her clients participate in. She urged the committee to maintain current levels of child care funding.

{Tape: 5; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 10.6}

Mr. Scot Anderson, Director, Head Start of Missoula, stressed the importance of state-funded child care programs in fostering children's and parents' progress and development.

Ms. Kate Cholewa, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, offered committee members the findings of a report that found 50% of women on public assistance are victims of domestic violence.

{Tape: 5; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 16.4}

Ms. Mary Lyons, The Nurturing Center, a Kalispell resource and referral center, refers parents to child care providers and helps providers seek and receive state-mandated and personal training goals. She stated that 50 child care providers in Flathead Valley care for the children of employees who support a \$5 million economy.

Ms. Lyons also read a letter from **Ms. Gretchen Goodson,** a single mother who urged the committee to fund child care services.

Ms. Janet Bush, Director, Missoula-based Montana Child Care Resource Center Referral Network, referred the committee to and

discussed Exhibit 6, The Montana Child Care Profile, 2003-2004. She also urged maintenance of child care funding.

Ms. DeeAnn Hartman, District 7 Human Resources Development Council, requested increased funding for LIEAP.

Ms. Leslie DeWitt, District 10 Human Resources Development Council, Kalispell, expressed the importance of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds.

Ms. Mary McCue, Montana Chapter, National Association of Social Workers, supported comments made by Ms. Smith, **REP. WANZENREID** and **REP. JUNEAU**.

{Tape: 5; Side: B}

Mr. Curt Chisholm, Rocky Mountain Development Council, supported increased funding for LIEAP and Energy Share.

REP. MARY CAFERRO, HD 80, HELENA, requested that the committee restore TANF benefits, support **REP. JUNEAU's** bill, and use general fund monies to keep child care programs at their current funding levels.

Ms. Brenda Hergott, Butte Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, submitted a letter from a single mother of three, who discussed the ways she has benefitted from state-funded child care programs.

The following Exhibits were submitted after adjournment:

[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a12\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a13\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a14\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a15\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a16\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a17\)](#)
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[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a24\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(jhh16a25\)](#)

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:15 A.M.

REP. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN, Chairman

LAURA GOOD, Secretary

CK/LG

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([jhh16aad0.TIF](#))